WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An automatic document feeder capable of feeding a batch of documents of varying material types to a document reader of an imaging device, the automatic document feeder comprising:

a document tray supporting the batch of documents thereon;

a separator separating a document from the batch of documents on the document tray;

an input device receiving data on the material type of the batch of documents; and

a separation controller operatively coupled to the separator and in communication with the input device, wherein the separation controller drives the separator to initiate separation of a document from the batch of documents in response to data received from the input device.

2. An automatic document feeder according to Claim 1, wherein the data on the material type of the batch of documents received by the input device includes data on whether the batch of documents are color recorded paper or normal paper.

3. An automatic document feeder according to Claim 2,

wherein the separation controller delays the separator to initiate separation of a document from the batch of documents in response to receiving data that the documents are color-recorded paper.

4. An automatic document feeder according to Claim 2, further comprising:

a transporter transporting documents, including first and subsequent documents separated by the separator, to the document reader;

the transporter including a sensor detecting a trailing edge of the first document;

the separation controller, responsive to the data that the batch of documents is color-recorded paper, drives the separator to initiate separation of the subsequent document from the batch of documents after the sensor detects the trailing edge of the first document; and

the separation controller, responsive to the data that the batch of documents is normal paper, drives the separator to initiate separation of the subsequent document from the batch of documents before the sensor detects the trailing edge of the first documents.

5. An automatic document feeder according to Claim 1, wherein the input device is coupled to a user interface of

the imaging device, wherein the input device receives the data on the material type of the batch of documents from the user interface.

6. An automatic document feeder according to Claim 1, wherein the input device is coupled to a detector of the imaging device detecting color imaging capabilities of the imaging device, wherein the input device receives the data on the material type of the batch of documents from the detector.

7. An imaging device comprising:

a document reader for reading images from a batch of documents;

an automatic document feeder capable of feeding the batch of documents of varying material types to the document reader, the automatic document feeder including a document tray supporting the batch of documents thereon and a separator separating a document from the batch of documents on the document tray;

an interface receiving input data on the material type of the batch of documents; and

a controller operatively coupled to the interface and the separator, wherein the controller drives the separator to initiate separation of a document from the batch of

documents in response to the input data on the material type received from the interface.

8. An imaging device of Claim 7, further comprising:

a printer capable of recording images read by the document reader on recording sheets in a recording mode, including a color recording mode or a monochrome recording mode;

the interface receiving input data on the printing mode; and

the controller, being operatively coupled to the printer and responsive to the input data on the printing mode, controlling the printer to record in the color recording mode or the monochrome recording mode.

9. An imaging device of claim 8, wherein when the interface has received input data on the color recording mode and has not received input data on the material type, the interface queries for input data on the material type.

10. An automatic document feeder capable of feeding a batch of documents to a printer capable of selectively recording images in a color recording mode or a monochrome recording mode, the automatic document feeder comprising:

a document tray supporting the batch of documents

thereon;

a separator separating a document from the batch of documents on the document tray; and

an input device receiving data on the selected recording mode; and

a separation controller operatively coupled to the separator and in communication with the input device, wherein the separation controller drives the separator to initiate separation of a document from the batch of documents in response to data received from the input device.

11. An automatic document feeder according to Claim 10, wherein the separation controller delays the separator to initiate separation of a document from the batch of documents in response to receiving data that the recording mode is the color-recording mode.

12. An automatic document feeder capable of feeding a batch of documents to a printer, the automatic document feeder comprising:

a document tray supporting the batch of documents thereon;

a separator separating a document from the batch of documents on the document tray; and

a detector detecting a capability of the printer to

record in color; and

a separation controller operatively coupled to the separator and in communication with the detector, wherein the separation controller drives the separator to initiate separation of a document from the batch of documents in response to the detector detecting the capability to record in color.

13. An automatic document feeder according to Claim 12, wherein the separation controller delays the separator to initiate separation of a document from the batch of documents in response to the detector detecting that the printer is capable of recording in color.

14. A method for feeding a batch of documents in an image recording device, the method comprising the following steps:

setting material type of the batch of document;

separating a first document from the batch of documents; and

setting an interval for separating a subsequent document from the batch of documents responsive to the step of setting the material type of the batch of documents.

15. A method of claim 14, wherein the step of setting

the interval includes setting the interval for color-recorded paper longer than the interval for normal paper.

16. A method according to claim 14, further comprising the following steps:

determining a recording-mode of the image recording device to be either color recording or monochrome recording; and

when the recording mode is determined to be color recording, alerting whether or not the material type of the batch of documents has been set.

17. A method for feeding a batch of documents in an image recording device, the method comprising the following steps:

detecting a recording mode of the image recording device to be either a color recording mode or a monochrome recording mode; and

separating a first document from the batch of documents; and

setting an interval for separating a subsequent document from the batch of documents responsive to detecting the recording mode.

18. A method of claim 17, wherein the step of setting

the interval includes setting the interval for color recording longer than the interval for monochrome recording.

19. A method for feeding a batch of documents in an image recording device, the method comprising the following steps:

determining whether the image recording device has a color recording function;

separating a first document from the batch of documents; and

setting an interval for separating a subsequent document from the batch of documents responsive to the determining step.